

C1

- (c) detecting the presence of said axonally-derived protein bound to said at least one monoclonal antibody.

Please amend the claims as follows:

C2

Claim 14 (twice amended). A method of determining axonal damage in the central nervous system of a patient suspected of having a condition selected from primary neuronal injuries, primary hemorrhages, primary vascular injuries, dural sinus laceration or occlusion, traumatic pia-arachnoid injuries, cranial nerve injuries, and secondary traumatic lesions, said method comprising the steps:

- (a) obtaining a sample of cerebrospinal fluid from said patient;
- (b) treating said sample of cerebrospinal fluid with at least one monoclonal antibody, said at least one monoclonal antibody having been raised against an axonally-derived protein selected from the group consisting of isoforms of tau protein of SEQ ID NO: 1 and fragments thereof; and
- (c) detecting the presence of said axonally-derived protein bound to said at least one monoclonal antibody.

C3

Claim 17 (twice amended). A method according to Claim 14 wherein said axonally-derived protein is a fragment of said tau protein of SEQ ID NO: 1 demonstrating an apparent molecular weight less than 50 kDa.

C4

Claim 18 (amended). A method according to Claim 17 wherein said axonally-derived protein demonstrates an apparent molecular weight in the range of about 30 kDa to about 50 kDa.

C5  
sub 5  
C6  
Claim 19 (twice amended). A method according to Claim 17 wherein said axonally-derived protein comprises the sequence from serine<sup>199</sup> to serine<sup>396</sup> of tau protein of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 20 (amended). A method according to Claim 19 wherein said axonally-derived tau protein lacks the native N-terminal and C-terminal amino acids.

C7  
sub 5  
Claim 24 (twice amended). A method according to Claim 23 wherein said axonally-derived protein bound to said at least one monoclonal antibody is a fragment of tau protein of SEQ ID NO: 1 which is detected through gel electrophoresis and which gives rise to an electrophoresis gel demonstrating multiple protein bands with apparent molecular weights less than 50 kDa.

Claim 25 (twice amended). A method according to Claim 24 wherein said axonally-derived protein bound to said at least one monoclonal antibody is a fragment of tau protein of SEQ ID NO: 1 which is detected through gel electrophoresis and which gives rise to an electrophoresis gel demonstrating multiple protein bands with apparent molecular weights from about 30 to about 50 kDa.

C8  
sub 5  
Claim 27 (twice amended). The method of Claim 26 wherein the ELISA employs monoclonal antibodies recognizing tau protein of SEQ ID NO: 1 present in human cerebrospinal fluid.

A version of these claims showing the specific amendments made is attached.